GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:233
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2008
ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL
Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar;Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has established the Armed Forces Tribunal for the speedy redressal of the grievances of the Armed Forces Personnel;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said Tribunal;and

(c) the extent to which the Tribunal is likely to be helpful in the redressal of grievances of the Personnel?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 233 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2008.

The Government have decided to establish an Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) for the adjudication or trial of disputes and complaints with respect to commission,appointments, enrolment and conditions of service in respect of persons subject to the Army Act, 1950, the Navy Act, 1957 and the Air Force Act,1950 and also to provide for appeals arising out of orders,findings or sentences of Courts Martial held under the said Acts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Chairperson of the Tribunal is a former judge of the Supreme Court.In addition,it will have 15 Administrative Members and 14 Judicial Members in the Principal Bench and the Regional Benches.

The Tribunal shall have both the original and appellate jurisdiction in regard to the service matters. The Tribunal shall also have appellate jurisdiction on verdicts of Courts Martial.

The Tribunal would help in speedy redressal of grievances of the Service Personnel.